

THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

HUNTERS CAPITAL, LLC, a Washington  
limited liability company, et al., on behalf of  
themselves and others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

CITY OF SEATTLE,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:20-cv-00983 TSZ

**STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER**

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

This Order shall govern all documents or information produced or disclosed in this action by any Plaintiff, Defendant, or non-party. Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are

entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

“Confidential” material may include all or a portion of the following documents and tangible things produced or otherwise exchanged, subject to a review by each party of the specific documents in question: financial data, trade secrets, medical information, information related to ongoing investigations by law enforcement, 911 emergency communications system information, and personally identifiable information; provided, however, that by agreeing that these categories of documents and information may contain confidential information, neither party is agreeing that specific information and/or documents are in fact confidential, trade secrets, or other types of information that may be protected against use, disclosure, or public disclosure in court pleadings.

3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.

However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

1           4.2    Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered  
 2 by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any  
 3 confidential material only to:

4                   (a)    the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as employees  
 5 of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

6                   (b)    the officers, directors, and employees (including in-house counsel) of the  
 7 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the parties  
 8 agree that a particular produced document is for Attorney’s Eyes Only and is so designated<sup>1</sup>, in  
 9 which case a receiving party may only disclose the confidential material to the parties designated  
 10 in Section 4.2 (a, c, d, e, f or g);

11                  (c)    experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this  
 12 litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

13                  (d)    the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

14                  (e)    copy or imaging services or third-party eDiscovery service providers,  
 15 retained by counsel or a party to assist in the duplication, processing, review and analysis of  
 16 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the service instructs the service  
 17 not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately return all originals and  
 18 copies of any confidential material;

19                  (f)    during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is  
 20 reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”  
 21 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of  
 22 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must  
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24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 25 <sup>1</sup> An “Attorney’s Eyes Only” designation shall be made in good faith only for documents or materials of a highly  
 confidential and/or proprietary nature. An “Attorney’s Eyes Only” designation would allow a receiving party to  
 disclose the confidential material to in-house counsel.

1 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted  
2 under this agreement;

3 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a  
4 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

5 4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing or  
6 referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party,  
7 in accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether the designating party will  
8 remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted, or whether a motion  
9 to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. When possible, such conference shall occur  
10 two or more days prior to the filing date. During the meet and confer process, the designating  
11 party must identify the basis for sealing the specific confidential information at issue, and the filing  
12 party shall include this basis in its motion to seal, along with any objection to sealing the  
13 information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the  
14 standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under  
15 seal. A party who seeks to maintain the confidentiality of its information must satisfy the  
16 requirements of Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(B), even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal.  
17 Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in the motion to seal being denied, in accordance with  
18 the strong presumption of public access to the Court's files.

19 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

20 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each party  
21 or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take  
22 care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate  
23 standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material,  
24 documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of the  
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1 material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept  
2 unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.<sup>2</sup>

3 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are  
4 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to  
5 unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses  
6 and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

7 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated for  
8 protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other parties  
9 that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation. To the extent that the producing party elects to or  
10 is ordered to downgrade or alter the confidentiality designation for any material, the producing  
11 party shall re-produce the material to reflect its updated designation.

12 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this  
13 agreement (*see, e.g.*, Section 5.3 below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, disclosure or  
14 discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement must be clearly designated as  
15 such before or when the material is disclosed or produced. In addition, any non-party who  
16 designates materials pursuant to this agreement must also execute the "Acknowledgment and  
17 Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

18 (a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents and  
19 deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings),  
20 the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" to each page that contains  
21 confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection,  
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24 <sup>2</sup> This case involves the production of hundreds of hours of audio recordings from the Seattle Police and Fire  
25 Departments, each of which is very likely to contain protected health care information (*see, e.g.*, ch. RCW 70.02),  
personally identifiable information, and/or law enforcement information, including related to ongoing investigations  
(*see, e.g.*, RCW 42.56.240) and 911 emergency communications systems (*see, e.g.*, RCW 38.52.575). These  
recordings may be designated as a unit.

the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (*e.g.*, by redacting the confidential material and making appropriate markings in the margins).

(b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the parties and any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, all protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony after reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within thirty days after receiving the transcript of the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential; during that thirty-day period, the parties shall treat the deposition transcript as confidential, including the obligation to meet and confer set forth in paragraph 6 below. If a party or non-party desires to protect confidential information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

(c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection, the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party’s right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

## 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party’s confidentiality designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to

1 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the  
2 original designation is disclosed.

3       6.2    Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute  
4 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding confidential  
5 designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration  
6 or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other  
7 affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list  
8 the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-  
9 to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

10       6.3    Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court  
11 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Local  
12 Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of  
13 persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those  
14 made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on  
15 other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to maintain  
16 the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the challenge.

17 7.    PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER  
18 LITIGATION

19       If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels  
20 disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party  
21 must:

22               (a)    promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the  
23 subpoena or court order;

(b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement; and

(c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

#### 8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

#### 9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

#### 10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving party must return or destroy all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof, and each receiving party shall certify that it has destroyed any



1 documents marked Attorney's Eyes Only. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate  
2 methods of destruction.

3 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all  
4 documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence,  
5 deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert  
6 work product, even if such materials contain confidential material.

7 The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a  
8 designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

9 Nothing in this Stipulated Protective Order shall be construed as an admission of any fact  
10 or of liability of any kind. The parties agree that this Stipulated Protective Order shall not be  
11 admitted as evidence in any proceeding, including at any deposition or at trial, except to enforce  
12 the provisions herein.

13 IT IS SO STIPULATED,

14 DATED this 11 day of December, 2020.

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1 PURSUANT TO THE STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.

2 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any  
3 documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or  
4 state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those  
5 documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other  
6 privilege or protection recognized by law.

7 DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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10 THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY  
11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name], of  
\_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of  
perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was  
issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on  
\_\_\_\_\_ [date] in the case of *Hunters Capital, et. al. v. City of Seattle*, Case No. 2:20-  
cv-00983 TSZ. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective  
Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions  
and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any  
manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or  
entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the  
Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective  
Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State where sworn and signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_